



JULY
2026

WWW.GRACE43081.ORG
THE VOICE OF GRACE
An Affiliate of the North American Lutheran Church

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
**VBS
JULY
12-16**

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church • 100 E. Schrock Rd. • Westerville, OH 43081



YOUR INVITATION TO A CELEBRATION

On **Sunday, July 19**, we will celebrate the **45th anniversary** of the ordination of The Rev. Dr. David M. Wendel to the Office of Holy Ministry. Bishop Emeritus John Bradosky will be our guest preacher at both the 8:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship services.

A reception will be held between services, providing an opportunity for members, friends, and guests to share memories, offer congratulations, and celebrate Rev. Wendel's many years of faithful service to Christ and His Church. *Council members: Jim Caldwell, Lisa Kuhar, Kyle Lamb, Tracey Nave, Ellen Paulus, Ted Ray, Gregg Rearick, Jackie Washburn*

**Celebrating
Pastor
Wendel's
Ordination
Anniversary**

GLCCenter Update

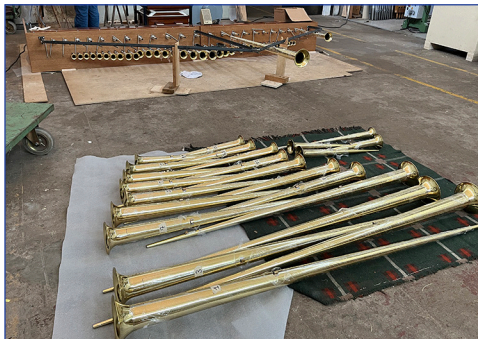
from Linda Fichtelman

Work continues to be underway in developing both the physical and programming aspects of the GLCC.

The steering team met twice during the month of June to establish personnel policies and procedures.

Numerous decisions were made to ensure we have not only a top notch program for children and families, but one that appeals to and attracts highly qualified faculty and staff as well. High-quality teachers will be critical for providing nurturing, developmentally appropriate education and care for the children enrolled in the program.

**Organ Trumpets From Italy Are
in Final Preparation for Shipping**



The Ruffatti Brothers Organ Company of Italy has informed us that the trumpets (pictured above in their voicing room) are expected to be finished and ready to ship by the end of June. Due to the uncertainty of the international shipping "world", we are still not sure when they will arrive and be installed. But we see progress being made and look forward to their installation over the entrance of the nave.



GOING BACK 250 YEARS

We will celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence by worshipping on **Sunday, July 5** in the same manner most Lutherans were used to in the mid to late 1700's. The Muhlenberg Lutheran Church Order of 1748, originally prepared by the Father of Lutheranism in America, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, was formally adopted at the formation of the Pennsylvania Ministerium on August 15, 1748 after the dedication of St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Philadelphia. This Muhlenberg Lutheran Church Order (Liturgy) was the only one authorized for use by Lutherans in the colonies for almost 40 years.

So on **July 5th, next Sunday**, we will go back in time 250 years and worship in a similar manner, using Muhlenberg's liturgy, just as our Lutheran ancestors did during the time of the Revolution.

Note: Pastor Wendel included a more complete explanation of the Muhlenberg Liturgy on page 2 of the June Voice of Grace and in this month's "Notes from the Pastor" page 2.



**AMAZING GRACE
CONCERT SERIES
PRESENTS
SCIOTO VALLEY
BRASS
AND PERCUSSION**

**AMERICA'S 250TH
BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
ON THE LAWN
SUNDAY, JULY 19TH
4:00 PM**

The chief confessional document of Lutheranism, the Augsburg Confession (1530), states this about repentance and confession:

From the Pastor's Desk



Rev. Dr. David Wendel

Article XII: Of Repentance.

Of Repentance they (our churches) teach that for those who have fallen after Baptism there is remission of sins whenever they are converted and that the Church ought to impart absolution to those thus returning to repentance. Now, repentance consists properly of these two parts: One is contrition, that is, terrors smiting the conscience through the knowledge of sin; the other is faith, which is born of the Gospel, or of absolution, and believes that for Christ's sake, sins are forgiven, comforts the conscience, and delivers it from terrors. Then good works are bound to follow, which are the fruits of repentance.

In mid-June, I was at a Lutheran pastor's retreat at Saint Meinrad, Indiana, where the plenary sessions focused on the Lutheran understanding of repentance and forgiveness. Some of our discussion revolved around the real, heartfelt commitment of Lutherans to participate regularly in confession and absolution, usually through the "Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness" at the beginning of each Sunday service. It's interesting that when the Lutheran Book of Worship (the Green book) was published, for the first time, the Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness became optional. The *rubric*, or *red* notation states that "The Brief Order...*may* be used..."

This was a radical departure from current Lutheran practice and the *may* option was almost universally rejected, with most congregations continuing to confess and receive forgiveness before the Sunday service of Word and Sacrament. As we are preparing to use the so-called *Muhlenberg Liturgy of 1748* for our worship services on Sunday, July 5th, it's worth explaining how confession and absolution happened among Lutherans at the time of the Revolution.

Among Lutherans at the time, here and in Lutheran lands in Europe and Scandinavia, there was no "Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness" at the beginning of the Sunday service. Instead, there was an entire confessional service on the Saturday preceding any communion service!

Most congregations in the colonies didn't have their own pastor, so there was no communion until the pastor was present. In some places, they may have had communion more frequently, and in other places, the pastor may have only arrived by horseback every quarter or once every six months.

The pastor would communicate with a particular congregation on the Sunday he would be present to preach and preside at the Holy Communion. It was the responsibility of anyone intending to commune to notify the pastor that he/she would commune on that Sunday. Then, the pastor would hold a Saturday full service of confession and forgiveness for those intending to commune. There were hymns, Scripture readings and sermon, exhortations to repent and confess one's sins, followed by the declaration of forgiveness. There was no leeway given. If you didn't properly notify the pastor that you would commune AND participate in the Saturday service of corporate confession and forgiveness, the pastor wouldn't commune you! A Christian must examine one's conscience sincerely, confess that sin in the confessional service and receive absolution before being ready to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord, in the Lord's Supper. It was the pastor's responsibility, as it was described, to "fence the altar," allowing only those who have prepared, confessed and been forgiven to receive at the altar.

As time passed, obviously, there must've been complaints or maybe people working on Saturdays couldn't attend the Saturday confessional service, so slowly, that service was shortened and provided as a "brief order" on Sunday morning for those wishing to commune. It was still expected that parishioners would inform the pastor of their intention to commune prior to the service. However, the brief order we use, in a few different forms, is the remnant of the previous extensive process before communion.

And why is this worth sharing? Because it highlights our firm commitment, still, to our Lutheran biblical, confessional understanding that repentance for sin is necessary so that *for Christ's sake, sins are forgiven, comforts the conscience, and delivers it from terrors. Then good works are bound to follow, which are the fruits of repentance.*

I hope this may be meaningful insight every Sunday, as we repent, confess and receive forgiveness, *for Christ's sake!*

-Pr.DW

Council Highlights

Council met Tuesday June 23rd.

- We continue to work with Jon Sweet as he works with our building contractor Lehman Daman on moving forward with the GLCC and other renovations.
- July will be a busy month at Grace with much to celebrate. We will celebrate America's 250th Birthday with a special service on July 5th. On July 19th we will celebrate Pastor's 45th Anniversary of Ordination with Bishop Emeritus John Bradosky presiding at both services that morning. A cake reception will be held between services. Also, that day, we will host an Amazing Grace concert at 4:00 pm featuring Scioto Valley Brass and Percussion celebrating America.
- Our annual VBS will be held the week of July 12th.

Please plan to join us for these special events and celebrations.

Respectfully submitted

Tracey Nave, Council Secretary



See page 4



Did you know that Church greeters are vital and are Grace's "front door" to our congregation serving as a first living impression of our church. Did you know most first-time visitors decide whether they will return within the first ten minutes of arrival, a warm, helpful greeting eliminates awkwardness and makes people feel safe and welcome. So smile, wear your name tag and shake hands. Tell everyone how happy you are that they are here.

A strong greeting team is far more than just a logistical task; it is a vital ministry that may impact a visitor's willingness to engage with the gospel. Your importance can be broken down into four critical areas:

1. Shaping First Impressions

Walking into a new church can feel intimidating. Guests often wonder if they will be judged, if they are dressed appropriately, or if they will know anyone. A smiling, prepared greeter signals immediate acceptance, putting visitors at ease and making them receptive to the service.

2. Providing Practical Guidance

To a first-time visitor, a church building can feel like a foreign country. Greeters act as essential tour guides by pointing out restrooms, water fountains, the nursery or wherever someone needs to go.

3. Fostering Community Connection

Research shows that people typically connect and stay at a church because of the relationships they build, not just the institution itself. Effective greeters help embed visitors into the congregation by striking up conversations, remembering their names, and introducing them to other members, ushers, or pastors.

4. Reflecting Gospel Hospitality

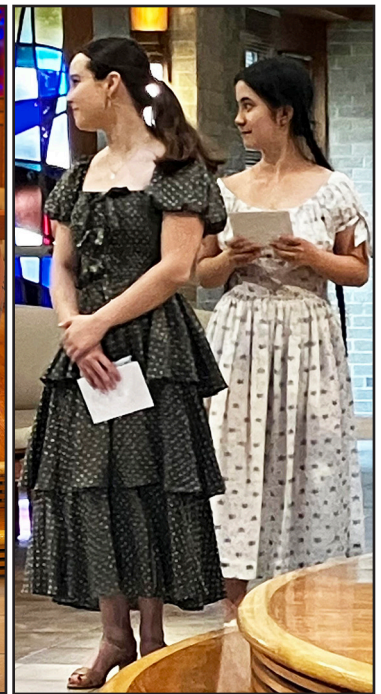
Serving as a greeter is a counter-cultural act of hospitality. By welcoming everyone with warmth and grace, greeters embody the biblical priority of hospitality found in the early church. They create an environment where people don't just feel attended to, but truly seen.

So now that you know how important Greeters are to our church and congregation, please consider being a greeter. We are looking for greeters for both services and special and holiday services.



I am also looking for a new captain for the months of February/August. This just means that during those 2 months, you, as the captain, are seeking out greeters

to cover both the 8:15 and 11:00 services using our list of AWESOME volunteers. I usually send out a mass email to get everything started. I may have to send out another email. I would also suggest not waiting until a week before to start trying to get coverage.



Graduates Recognized

On June 7, 2026 Pastor Wendel read the names of our young scholars who have graduated this Spring from High School or College. Four of them were in attendance at Worship services that day. Above left: Jack Nickoli and Landon Blankenship, South High and Olentangy High respectively, and Addie Gurgiolo and Nami Clark, both girls graduating from Westerville South. Congratulations to all the graduates.

The Diabetes Dash 5K Run/Walk,

Hosted by the Washburn family, the Diabetes Dash returns for its 8th annual event on **Sunday, July 19th** at the Westerville Sports Complex. This event began after son Ryan was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes in 2018 and continues to bring our community together to raise awareness and support for a cure.



To date, the Diabetes Dash has raised over \$135,000 for 'Breakthrough T1D', with a portion of proceeds also supporting scholarships for local graduating seniors living with T1D.

You can get involved by signing up to run or walk, making a donation, or sharing the event with others. Every step makes an impact. Learn more or register here:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Westerville/DiabetesDash>



Join the fun at our next **Euchre** game on Monday, July 20 at 1 o'clock in the café. It can be a little competitive, but lots of laughs! We need four people per table, so sign up at the Welcome center ahead of time!

Any questions, please reach out to Lois Rumph or Karen Bale.



GRACE'S GANG MESSAGES FROM MOLLY

Molly King, Director
Youth & Family Ministries
m.king@grace43081.org or
614-882-3026.



Youth and Family Vision Statement:

To nurture Youth and Family
in Christ
through Bible based teaching,
music, activities
and community outreach.

Rainforest Falls HAS COME TO GRACE

Check it out
or . . . better yet
JOIN THE
FUN!



**SUNDAY, JULY 12 -
THURSDAY, JULY 16**

5:30-8:00PM

Explore the Nature of God

Registration STILL OPEN

Register at:
www.Grace43081.org
or scan code
or call the office at
614-882-3026



Volunteers still needed - see Molly or Sarah

VBS Training Underway

Vacation Bible school had a training with those who could attend. We did an activity that formed a rainforest canopy. We are looking forward to the fun we will have July 12 through the 16th. We will be kicking off the week with ice cream from Sticky Fingers ice cream cart.



Answer the call to Adventure - *Rainforest Falls* VBS 2026!

Join us **July 12–16** for an exciting week of Rainforest Falls VBS 2026! Our VBS adventure begins Sunday, July 12 with registration at 5:00 PM, followed by nightly programming from 5:30–8:00 PM.

VBS is one of the biggest outreach ministries of the year, and we need many helping hands to create a fun, safe, and faith-filled experience for our children. Volunteers are needed in a variety of areas, and no special experience is required—just a willing heart and excitement for sharing Jesus with kids!

Volunteer Opportunities Include:

- Bible Adventures Leaders • Imagination Station Leaders • Sticky Scriptures Leaders • Registration Center • Games Leaders • Elementary Crew Leaders • Preschool Crew Leaders • Assistant Leaders

VBS is a wonderful opportunity to build relationships, share your faith, and make lasting memories with the children of our church and community. Please prayerfully consider serving this Summer!

For more information or to volunteer, visit the Welcome Desk or contact Molly King.

Help Transform Grace into Rainforest Falls

VBS SET UP DAY - SATURDAY, JULY 11.

9:00 am to noon (sign up: <http://grace-evangelical-luther.subspla.sh/fbynkdq>)

1:00 am to 4:00 pm (sign up: <http://grace-evangelical-luther.subspla.sh/7vprmttd>)

VBS SET UP DAY - SUNDAY, JULY 12

12:30 pm - 3:00 pm (sign up: <http://grace-evangelical-luther.subspla.sh/qhk6nfh>)

VBS TEAR-DOWN DAY - FRIDAY, JULY 17

9:00 am to noon (sign up: <http://grace-evangelical-luther.subspla.sh/nyyckbf>)



OWL

After a year long mystery, the OWL Reveal Party was held on Sunday, June 7 after the 11:00 am worship service. The party included a breakfast, some wonderful OWL cup cakes and a craft. The youngsters were happy to finally meet their OWLs.



Youth and Family Congregational
Kings Island
Trip
Saturday, August 1st!

All members of the congregation are invited to a Youth and Family trip to King's Island amusement park, **Saturday, August 1st!** We will meet at the church at 8:30 AM and spend the day having fun at the park. If we have 15 or more, tickets will be \$44! Bring the family, bring a friend! Sign up now at the Welcome Desk or register online <https://grace-evangelical-luther.subspla.sh/26t83gm> or scan the QR code.



Youth & Family at Grace Evangelical Church:

We are excited to support families and help children grow in faith!
Here's how we welcome and care for your family during worship and beyond:

Nursery Care: For infants through age 6

- Enjoy worship while your little ones are lovingly cared for.
- Pagers available for parents – we'll page you if needed.
- Busy Bags: Keep little hands busy during the service! On the coat tree by the entrance to the sanctuary.
- Age-appropriate books and activities.

Children's Bulletins

- Bulletins with activities that follow the lectionary available at the usher's table.

Little Lambs Children's Ministry

- For ages 3 through 3rd grade
Children leave worship after the Gospel reading for an age-appropriate Bible lesson and return during the offering for Holy Communion. Available at both worship services.

Sunday School

- Every Sunday, 9:40 – 10:30 AM, September 7 – Memorial Day Weekend
- Classes for Preschool through High School
- Adult class also available

Lunch Club: Middle & High School Students

- Lunch and fellowship every other month.

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church is committed to helping young people and families grow in faith and community.
Questions? Contact Molly King, m.king@grace43081.org, 614-882-3026

YOUTH & FAMILY

**UPCOMING
EVENTS!**

**Lunch
Club**
July 26

**Kings
Island**
August 1

**FUN
at the
PARK**
August 8

**COLUMBUS
Clippers**
August 14

**COLUMBUS
CREW**
September 12

**Rally
Day**
September
13

GOLF WINNERS!



Morgan Crain (left) and Sarah Odum were the winners of the Mini Golf outing held in May. Morgan took home a gift certificate from Graeter's for her first place finish while Sarah received a gift certificate from Smoothies King for the second best score. They also get bragging rights for one year.



**Columbus Clippers
hosted by
Youth and Family-
August 14, 7:05pm.**

(Aug. 2 ticket sign-up deadline) Tickets will be \$11 for adults and \$9 for youth/senior. The youth age is 3-12 and seniors are 60 and up. Anyone 2 and under will not need a ticket. Sign up at the Welcome Desk or register by scanning the QR code.

If you have any questions contact Molly King:
m.king@grace43081.org





Dr. Helen Kang
Choir
Director

MUSIC NOTES

Grace Ringers Bell Choir rehearsal Wednesday at 6:15pm.

Contact Maria Laderman.

Grace Chancel Choir rehearsal Wednesday at 7:00pm! All are welcome!

Contact Helen Kang.

Joyful Voices Youth Choir rehearsal schedule:

contact Helen Kang.

Holy Trinity Sunday

May 31, 2026

PRELUDE

"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

*"Paraphrase on St. Patrick's
Breastplate/Deirdre/Gartan"*

Linda Hoch- Organ

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Christ the Sure Foundation"

Otterbein Quartet

COMMUNION MUSIC

"O Trinity, O Blessed Light"

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

Linda Hoch- Organ

POSTLUDE

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

Linda Hoch- Organ



Second Sunday After Pentecost

June 7, 2026

PRELUDE

"Meditation on Will You Come and Follow Me"

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

Linda Hoch- Organ

MUSICAL OFFERING

"A Communion Prelude for Flute and Organ"

Carleigh Benson - Flute,

Linda Hoch - Organ

COMMUNION MUSIC

"Take This Bread, Take This Cup"

Linda Hoch- Organ

POSTLUDE

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Linda Hoch- Organ

Third Sunday After Pentecost

June 14, 2026

PRELUDE

"Benedictus on Sicilian Mariners"

"Sing to the Lord of Harvest"

Linda Hoch- Organ

MUSICAL OFFERING

*"Movement II from Sonata for E-flat Alto
Saxophone"*

Linda Hoch- Organ

COMMUNION MUSIC

"Contemplation" "Sacraments"

Linda Hoch- Organ

POSTLUDE

"Rise Up, O Saints of God!"

Linda Hoch- Organ



Otterbein Quartet: Noell Burke, Joseph Worrell, Carleigh Benson, Aiden Kirjak



Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

June 28, 2026

PRELUDE

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

"Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake"

Linda Hoch- Organ

MUSICAL OFFERING

*"Movement II from Sonata for E-flat Alto
Saxophone"*

Joseph Worrell - Saxophone,

Linda Hoch- Organ

COMMUNION MUSIC

"Just as I Am, without One Plea"

"Sarabande" "Reflections"

Linda Hoch- Organ

POSTLUDE

"Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"

Linda Hoch- Organ

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

June 21, 2026

PRELUDE

"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

"Hymne"

Linda Hoch- Organ

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Grace Medley"

Carleigh Benson - Flute, Linda Hoch- Organ

COMMUNION MUSIC

"Cleansing Fountain"

Linda Hoch- Organ

POSTLUDE

"Postlude on Salzburg"

Linda Hoch- Organ



Roger and Marian Retherford musically aided the Liturgy during the 11:00 am service on June 21 and June 28.

Senior's Social Moments group test their knowledge of USA History (Trivia)



Did You Know? The official name for America's 250th anniversary? or - Ronald Reagan's favorite snack.? How about - where did the final clash of the Revolutionary War take place? These are but a few of the questions that the Senior Moments grappled with during a one hour get-together on Monday afternoon, June 15th. Members of the group also told their most interesting or memorable July 4 story. That prompted some lively discussion, and many laughs.

Senior's Social Moment Trip to Air Stream Factory and Do Good Restaurant! Monday, July 27th , 9 AM!

All seniors and friends are invited to a field trip to Jackson Center, **Monday, July 27th** , meeting at the church at 9 AM. We will have a tour at the Air Stream RV factory, then have lunch at the nearby Do Good Restaurant and Ministry, a unique restaurant in Osgood, OH, with gardens and activities. Check it out at dogoodrm.com!

Sign up at the Welcome Desk!



Looking Ahead: Senior's Trip to Frankenmuth, Michigan, Monday-Tuesday, Nov. 9-10!

All seniors and friends are invited to take an overnight trip to Frankenmuth, Michigan, "Little Bavaria," leaving Monday morning, November 9th and returning before 6 PM on November 10th. We will stay at

the Bavarian Inn, have time to explore the shops and history of the town and on Tuesday, visit Bronner's Christmas Shoppe, known as the largest Christmas store in the world!

"BIBLICAL QUOTES"

affirming God's enduring care and support

Isaiah 46:4 – "I will be your God throughout your lifetime -- until your hair is white with age. I made you, and I will care for you. I will carry you along and save you,"



"Help Wanted: Altar Guild Leader(s) Needed!"

Are you someone who loves the Lord, cherishes the Lord's Supper and the blessing of worship? Our long-time and much appreciated Altar Guild leader, Vanessa Stewart, would like to step down. We are looking for a person, persons or perhaps two couples who would like to be leader or co-leaders of our Altar Guild! Everything we do at Grace Lutheran Church revolves around God's grace, offered to us freely in Word and Sacrament. Our Altar Guild lovingly, prayerfully and respectfully prepares our church and sanctuary for worship so that the faithful can gather to receive God's gifts of grace.

Perhaps current Altar Guild members would consider serving as leader or there may be others in the congregation who are looking for a way to become more involved! If you are interested or have questions, please see Vanessa or Pastor Wendel. We are hoping to have a new Altar Guild leader or leaders trained and in place by September! Thanks for prayerfully considering whether God might be calling you to serve in this way! -Pr.DW

Serve

Sitting down, Jesus called the twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be last, and the servant of all." Mark 9:35



OUR FIRST FRUITS

You will be enriched in every way for all generosity, which produces thanksgiving to God through us.
-2 Cor 9:11

WARM's Value:

We recognize God through our work.
We believe in the dignity of each individual.
We work to help people become self-sufficient.
We strive to be exemplary stewards of resources with a vision for the future.

Thank You!

Place **ONLY** non-perishable items into grocery carts.

W.A.R.M. cannot accept food past its expiration date.

Fresh produce, baked goods & dairy products take directly to WARM.
150 Heatherdown Dr.
Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Thank you for helping us fulfill our mission of feeding the hungry in our community

Choice Market July Suggestions



- Canned fruit
- Canned meat
- Canned tomatoes
- Cereal
- Detergent (dishwasher and laundry)
- Helpers
- Paper towels
- Salad dressings
- Sugar
- Toilet paper

RECEIPTS FOR WARM

Blessings to all who are making WARM a part of your regular tithes and offerings.

Here are donations received since last reported (March Voice) from Debbie Yoho, Financial Manager
WARM receipts since last reported total **\$1,079.99**, for a 2026 year-to-date total of **\$6,416.60**

Below is what Grace members have contributed to these charities since last report:
Faith Mission -year-to-date total remains at \$345
Habitat for Humanity ... \$125, for a year-to-date total of \$2,345
Lutheran World Relief -year-to-date total remains at \$240
NALC Disaster Response - .. \$150, for a year-to-date total of \$1,675

FOOD/HYGIENE MONTHLY TOTAL= **231.5 lbs.**
YEAR TO DATE TOTAL= **1,183.5 lbs**

Thanks to all of our congregation members that have proven again and again that Grace is a loving and giving community of believers.

Social Concerns Notes

from Joanne Figge



Grace Ambassadors will be manning our tent at the Westerville Farmers Markets on June 20, **July 18 and August 28.**

- **AUGUST 15 -**
Westerville Habitat 'Walls Build' at WARM
7:30 am - 10:30 am.
- **MID-OCTOBER TO MID-SEPTEMBER.**
WARM Thanksgiving food collection
- **DECEMBER 5 -**
WARM Neighborhood food drive:
9:00am to noon
- **DECEMBER 11 -**
Westerville Habitat Partnership
Progressive Christmas Concert 7 - 9:15 pm.
- **JANUARY 17 - MLK Weekend Sunday -**
Soup 4 Shelter at Westerville Rec Center - 1-4 pm.

WARM Family Day of Service - July 25

WARM will be hosting a Family Serve Day on **Saturday, July 25 from 10am - 12pm.** We are accepting up to 25 participants. If your family has been looking for an opportunity to serve together, we'd love to have you here! If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Abby Morris, Community Relations Coordinator at abby@warmwesterville.org 2026-2027

CHILDHOOD NUTRITION

SHARE BAC-A-PAC DRIVERS NEEDED!

We are looking for 3 volunteer drivers to support the SBAP program during the 2026-2027 school year. Drivers help deliver the SBAP meal kits to schools each Thursday. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Delaney Stephens, Childhood Nutrition Coordinator at delaney@warmwesterville.org



Grace Ambassadors are the Face of Grace in our Community

from Joanne Figue

Become a 2026-2027 Grace Ambassador: Reach out to the community with the love of Jesus and help us to grow disciples! As a Grace

Ambassador, you will have opportunities to attend community events to be the presence of Grace, greet people, give them printed materials to invite them to events, and love on them.

In addition to the Farmers Market pictured at the right, we will be manning a site during the Arts and Music Festival sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce on July 10th and 11th

Sign-up to become a Grace Ambassador at the welcome desk. Questions: Outreach and Visibility Team: Joanne Figue (614-207-1061), Ellen Paulus (614-204-4686), or Sarah Odum (614-882-3026).

The Art and Environment Team will not meet in July. They will continue to assure that the plants, flowers and banners are displayed appropriate to the season. If you would like to know more about this ministry, check out the August Voice or contact Karen Grant or Sue Mahrt. There is a place for you!



Ein wunderbarer Abend im Hofbräuhaus

On June 18, Grace Supper Club dined at Hofbrauhaus in Grandview and had a wonderful evening filled with good German food and fellowship. Next month we have a reservation at Claudiana Italian Restaurant on **Thursday, July 16** for 6:15 p.m. Claudiana is located at 8475 Sancus Blvd, Columbus 43240. In order for us to have an accurate headcount, we ask that you sign up in advance and include the total number in your party.

If you sign up and are unable to attend, please text or call Bev Grubb or Tami Stone. A sign up sheet is available at the Welcome Center Desk. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!**



Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. Any questions, please see either Bev Grubb or Tami Stone.

The Farmer's Market is a Great Place to Introduce Grace to the Westerville Community.



Grace's Ambassadors were at Westerville's Farmers Markets on June 20, and will be there again on July 18 and August 29. They have materials to share with the public and invitations to VBS, Amazing Grace concerts, Trunk or Treat, worship and Sunday School. They also have a craft for children at each market and doggie treats for the many folks who bring their puppies to the Market.



Children's Busy Bags Available

The Busy Bags, lovingly put together by our young people, and maintained weekly by Carole Smith, are available at the entrance of the sanctuary for our little ones to pick up before worship.

Some of the items that are in the bags are sewing cards, finger puppets, board books, quiet books, Magnadoodles and more! Each week there are to be different things to do in the bags for the children while they sit with mom and dad during worship. At the end of the service, the youngsters are asked to hang the busy bag back on the tree.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Women's Wednesday Bible Study • Katharine Circle • Ruth Circle
Men of Grace • Sunday Morning Adult Class • Monday Evening Study
Band of Brothers • Sisterhood

MONDAY NIGHT Bible STUDY

Join us

June 29th was the final session of the Monday Night Bible Study of Romans. There will not be a meeting during the month of July. On Monday, **August 3, 6:30 PM** we will begin a four session study titled, "**What Lutherans Really Believe!**" Over time, Lutheranism in the United States has been impacted by Reformed evangelicalism, as well as so-called "American civil religion." What do Lutherans truly believe, according to the Augsburg Confession and the Lutheran confessional writings? Come discover confessional Lutheranism! We will discuss such topics as the Lutheran view of sacraments, the "Means of Grace," "Salvation by grace through faith," as well as the Lutheran understanding of saints, the Christian's life in "Two Kingdoms" as Luther explained it. The study will also answer questions about the Lutheran reforming movement within the Church catholic! Sign up at the Welcome desk!



Band of Brothers Gathering Again in August

The Band of Brothers for younger/working men will be on hiatus in July and will meet again in August for a special fellowship gathering. Watch the bulletins and August Voice!-Pr.DW



THE WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday, Women's Bible study began a new study on June 3, at 10:30 am. "*The Faithful, Heroes of the Old Testament.*"

It's a five-session Bible study with videos and is led by five authors, one each week.

Strengthen your faith as you walk alongside Gideon, Nehemiah, Esther, Hosea, and Malachi as they chose to obey God, no matter their circumstances. The workbooks are \$12 and we have class each Wednesday. If you are interested see Molly King or email at m.king@grace43081.org

Grace Sisterhood Grace Sisterhood's next meeting is **July 13 at 7pm** at The Hoover Bar and Kitchen. We will continue meeting the 2nd Monday of each month (so mark your new 2026



calendars so you can join in the fellowship). We are studying, "Women and Identity" by Adele Ahlberg Calhoun & Tracey D Bianchi. All younger/working women of the congregation (and friends!) are invited and welcome! Contact: Melissa Hodek

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASS (Fellowship Hall)

The Adult SS class began a recess in May. They will reconvene sometime in **August**. The new study has yet to be determined. Please consider joining the adult Sunday School for a study facilitated by Bill Kulju in the fellowship hall at 9:45am.

MEN OF GRACE BIBLE STUDY

(Loaves and Fishes Cafe)



All men of Grace Lutheran Church (and friends!) —next meeting **Saturday, July 18 at 8 AM** in the Loaves and Fishes Cafe. We will complete the study of the Gospel of Luke! Pastor Wendel facilitates the study. Join us for breakfast, study and fellowship. -Pr.DW

KATHARINE CIRCLE

(Rose Garden 2&3)

Katharine Circle will resume in the fall. Come and join us for study and fellowship! Call Dorothy Crain, 614-264-5304, with questions.



RUTH CIRCLE (Rose Garden 1)

Ruth Circle will resume in the fall.

The Session on
Lutheranism is available on the Church Website and YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TtQGn4q9qll&t=16s>
it is titled "Lutheranism in 90 Minutes"
by Pastor David Wendel

The Catholicity of the Reformation in 90 Minutes!
This 90 minute study was presented last October by Pastor Wendel and was recorded in its entirety and is available on YouTube from the Grace homepage:
www.Grace43081.org.

JULY 2026

BIRTHDAYS

JULY

- 1-ANNA HODEK
- 2-JIM SHORE
- 3-JOHN KNAPE
- 4-JENNIFER BLANKENSHIP
- 4-CORBIN PERKINS
- 6-BRENDAN KING
- 7-BEVERLY GRUBB
- 7-ANDY LADERMAN
- 8-PEGGY JONES
- 8-ANDE UCUBAGABRIEL
- 9-HEATHER BUSH
- 9-EVAN CRAIN
- 13-LINDA GREEN
- 13-NATE HOLMES
- 16-JOANNE FIGGE
- 17-TAMI BANKS
- 17-JULIE HARTFELDER
- 17-JOHN ROCKWOOD

- 19-WANDA BARTHOLOMEW
- 19-CHARLES NICKOLI
- 20-MATTHEW KING
- 22-MOLLY GEORGE
- 24-JEAN CLAFLIN
- 25-TITUS FRENCH
- 25-LOIS RUMPH
- 26-DAVID FUHRMAN
- 27-STELLA BLANKENSHIP
- 27-KATHY BOBB
- 28-JOHN KOTIK
- 28-OWEN LADERMAN
- 28-KATHERINE STRETE
- 29-DANIEL MORRISON
- 30-SUE TAYLOR

AUGUST

- 1-DANIEL GEORGE
- 2-JODIE COONFARE
- 5-ANNE WILSON

FLOWERS GIVEN BY...

JUNE 7

- Paul and Karen Grant in memory of Karen's mother Mae Dray.
- Lori and Amy in memory of the wedding of John and Chris Troutman on June 6, 1964.

JUNE 14

- Steve and Sue Mahrt in honor of grandchildren Anderson, Tyler, and Helena Mahrt.
- Fred Pfanz in memory of wife, Carol, and in celebration of son John's birthday.

JUNE 21

- Bill and Twyla Ridder in celebration of our 60th anniversary June 26th.

JUNE 28

- Tami and Tom Stone in celebration of our anniversary on June 26th.
- Merl and Jan Breen in celebration of our anniversary on June 29th.

Sign up for Altar Flowers at Welcome Center

Each Sunday we enjoy seeing flowers on the bema. It reminds us of the beauty of God's creation. The arrangement can honor an event, a loved one or give thanks and glory to God. Unfortunately the cost of flowers has gone up like many other things.

The current cost is \$80 a week. To help cover the cost, we are asking for a minimum donation of \$40.00. The flowers are not the property of the donor, but will be enjoyed by all. With care they can last a week or more in the gathering space.

We encourage you to continue this tradition. You may sign up at the welcome center, on-line through our giving page, or call the office.



ANNIVERSARIES

JULY

- 1-DANIEL & KRISTI GEORGE 31
- 10-CHRIS & TAMI BANKS 33
- 22-RICHARD & CHERYL LEISS..... 63
- 22-GREGG & SARAH REARICK 26
- 24-NELSON & PAM GROVER 55
- 25-JOHN & JOANNE ROCKWOOD..... 40
- 27-LINDA & JOE REASONER 21
- 28-LINDA & CHRISTOPHER HOCH..... 19
- 30-ROGER & MARIAN RETHERFORD..... 44
- 31-ROBERT BASSETT III & MELISSA HODEK... 16

AUGUST

- 2-ABIGAIL & SEAN BLOOR 1
- 3-STEPHEN & SUZANNE KILE..... 35
- 5-ROBERT & SHIRLEY KLINGENSMITH 59
- 6-JOHN & CHERYL DOBROKA..... 49



Lon Landis, David Doll, Linda Slates, Rich Meneley, Twyla Ridder, Jennifer Rockwood, Don Melick, Tom Zawodny, Betty Milner, Rod Rice, Sue Ross, Mary Ross, Jim Ross



Our next Red Cross Blood Drive is Tuesday, July 21st from noon to 6 pm in the Gathering Space.

Appointments are appreciated and walk-ins are accepted after 1:00pm.

Schedule an appointment by contacting the Red Cross at RedCrossBlood.org and use our sponsor code: GraceLuthWesterville or call 1-800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767).

Questions? Contact Vanessa Stewart.

Philippians 4: 6-7 (NIV) - 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

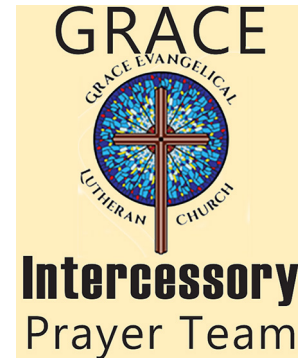
Let the Intercessory Prayer Team join you in asking God for your prayer needs. Prayer is a conversation we have with God about our needs that He can transform. That's why the Bible also says do not worry about anything but pray about everything. Believe that what is out of our control is in God's control and He is working on all things.

Your request to IPT means we will join you in prayer for 2 weeks. If you would like more prayer time, just request another 2 weeks, maybe with an update on your prayer request.

To make your prayer request known to the IPT:

1. Use the Prayer Chest at the back of the church. On the table you will find prayer request forms and pens. Put your request in the Prayer Chest anytime. Prayers are sent out to the IPT each Monday morning.
2. Use the Grace website: grace43081.org The link for "Prayer Request" is found on the top right-hand side of the first page. Your name is optional.

Let the IPT join you in prayer, asking God for your need.



Scan to Simply Give



This QR code connects you to the mobile version of Grace's online giving page to give you a quick and easy way to access our giving without having to type out a long web address. Through this link, you can create a one-time or on-going donation and to specify where you want your gift to

be applied. It's easy, fast, and secure. If you're able, we also encourage you to set up recurring giving. You can now give:

- **online** <https://grace-evangelical-luther.subspla.sh/87gkvf2>,
- **through the app** (<https://subsplash.com/grace-evangelical-luther/app>) or
- **Scan the QR code** to Simply Give today. Financial Update:

If you would like a copy of the full monthly Treasurer's report as presented to Council, please reach out to the Treasurer, Jim Caldwell and it will be emailed to you.

Little Lambs Children's Ministry



serves children ages 3 through 3rd grade, providing a fun, age-appropriate Bible lesson during the 8:15 AM and 11:00 AM worship service. Children leave after the Gospel reading and return during the offering for Holy Communion. We are currently seeking caring and

committed leaders to help guide our Little Lambs each Sunday at our 11:00 AM service. If you enjoy working with children and sharing God's love in a meaningful way, we'd love to have you join the team! For more information or to volunteer, please contact Molly King.

REASONS I ~~GO TO WORSHIP~~ SHOWER ONLY OCCASIONALLY

1. I was forced to shower as a child
2. People who shower are hypocrites. They think they are cleaner than everyone else.
3. There are so many different kinds of soap. I can never decide which one was right.
4. I used to shower regularly, but it got boring. So I stopped.
5. I shower only on special occasions, like Easter and Christmas.
6. Some of my friends never shower.
7. When I'm older and have gotten a bit dirtier, I might start showering more often.
8. I really don't have time to shower.
9. The bathroom is never warm enough in the winter or cool enough in the summer.
10. People who make soap are only after your money.

(There's more)

- I get along very well without regular showering.
- I work hard all week and am too tired to take a shower on the weekend.
- The first bar of soap I ever used gave me a rash, so I haven't gone near soap since.

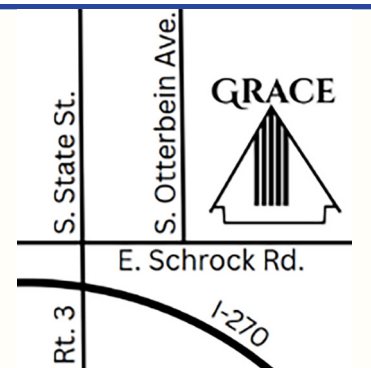
YOU ARE INVITED TO

Worship

8:15 & 11 a.m.



We invite our guests to accept a "Guest Bag" that contains information about Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church. The guest bags are located at the Welcome Center, just outside the entrance to the sanctuary. Ask an usher or any member for assistance.



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

100 E. Schrock Road, Westerville, OH 43081

Office Hours: Monday thru Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Friday 9 a.m. to Noon

PH: 614-882-3026 • e-mail: office@grace43081.org • Website: www.grace43081.org

Facebook: facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville

Grace Lutheran has been serving the Westerville community since 1909, supporting local ministries such as the Westerville Area Resource Ministry (W.A.R.M.), Westerville Partnership Habitat for Humanity and the Westerville CROP Walk. Grace also supports Lutheran Social Services programs like Faith Mission and provides weekly space for five AA groups (*Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday*). The Red Cross Bloodmobile, Vacation Bible School, the Autism Buddy Camp and Joyful Noise Concerts also are a benefit to the Westerville community.

Grace Staff

- David Wendel, Pastor d.wendel@grace43081.org
719-650-8171
- Molly King, Director of Youth and Family Ministries
614-581-6675 m.king@grace43081.org
- Helen Kang, Choir Director
h.kang@grace43081.org
- Linda Hoch, Organist lkgraf102078@earthlink.net
- Sarah Odum, Business Manager
614-882-3026 s.odum@grace43081.org
- Debbie Yoho, Financial Manager
d.yoho@grace43081.org
- Jon Sweet, Facilities Manager
facility@grace43081.org
- Maria Laderman, Director, Bell Choir
laderman522@yahoo.com
- Fred Pfanz, Sacristan Pfanz1@aol.com

2026 Church Council

- President**
Lisa Kuhar
- Vice President**
Ted Ray
- Treasurer**
Jim Caldwell
- Secretary**
Tracy Nave
- Members-at-Large**
Kyle Lamb
Ellen Paulus
Gregg Rearick
Jackie Washburn
- Pastor**
Rev. Dr. David Wendel

Worship and Study

Holy Communion

EVERY Sunday Morning
Two Worship Services: 8:15 and 11:00 a.m.

Youth Sunday School classes K-5

9:45 to 10:30 upstairs in the Preschool Room.

Confirmation and High School

9:45 to 10:30. Basement Youth Room

Adult Learning

9:45 a.m. Fellowship Hall

The Nursery

Open Sunday mornings during both services and the Sunday School hour.

Service Recording:

The recorded 8:15 am service will be available at noon www.grace43081.org

Vision Statement

We envision Grace to be a welcoming Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to reach out with the love of Jesus to grow disciples and serve our community.



North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

embraces four core values:
Christ Centered, Mission Driven,
Traditionally Grounded and
Congregationally Focused.

The NALC is focused on living out Christ's Great Commission to go and make disciples in North America and around the globe.

Learn more about Grace and the NALC.

Phone: +1 888 551 7254 •
E-mail: info@thenalc.org

Treasurer's Report - from Jim Caldwell, Treasurer

Year to date receipts and disbursements recap.

	MAY 2026			YTD 2026		
	Budget	Actuals	Variance	Budget	Actuals	Variance
Receipts	\$52,667	\$54,163	\$ 1,496	\$ 263,333	\$ 257,328	\$(6,005)
Disbursements:	55,958	51,985	3,974	279,792	284,095	(4,304)
Excess(Deficit)	\$(3,292)	\$2,178	\$ 5,470	\$(16,458)	\$(26,767)	\$(10,309)

Treasurer's Reports can be requested from Jim Caldwell or from the Church Office. If you have questions please contact any member of Council.



**GRACE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
100 E. Schrock Rd.
Westerville, OH 43081



2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>We envision Grace to be a welcoming, Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.</p> <p>Worship materials and sermon available online at www.grace43081.org</p>			<p>1 10:30 am Women's Bible Study</p> <p>6:15pm Ringers 7:30pm Scioto VBPC</p>	<p>2 7:30pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>3 - Office Closed -</p> <p>8:00pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>4 9:30am AA Mtg</p> <p>8:00pm AA Mtg</p>
<p>5 Sixth Sunday After Pentecost/Muhlenberg Lutheran Church Order of 1748/ First Fruits/ Care Team (Pr. David Wendel) 8:15 & 11:00am Worship Services</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 8:00pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>8 10:30 am Women's Bible Study</p> <p>6:15pm Ringers 7:30pm Scioto VBPC</p>	<p>9 6:30pm First Aid Training 7:30pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>10 Westerville Arts & Music Festival</p> <p>8:00pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>11 9:30am AA Mtg</p> <p>VBS Set-up</p> <p>8:00pm AA Mtg</p>
<p>12 Seventh Sunday After Pentecost (Pr. David Wendel) 8:15 & 11:00am Worship Services No Nursery VBS Set-up 5:00pm VBS Registration Table Opens</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Items due for July 21 Council Mtg</p>	<p>15 No Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 8:00am Men of Grace 9am-noon Grace Ambassador's @ Farmer's Market 9:30am AA Mtg</p>
<p>5:30-8pm Vacation Bible School</p>						
		<p>8:00pm AA Mtg</p>			<p>6:15pm Supper Club 7:30pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>8:00pm AA Mtg</p>
<p>19 Eighth Sunday After Pentecost/45th Anniversary of The Rev. Dr. David Wendel's Ordination (Bishop Emeritus John Bradosky) 8:15 & 11:00am Worship Services Reception between services</p>	<p>20 1:00pm Euchre Group</p>	<p>21 Noon-6pm Blood Drive</p> <p>6:30pm Council Mtg. 8:00pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>22 10:30 am Women's Bible Study</p> <p>6:15pm Ringers 7:30pm Scioto VBPC</p>	<p>23 10:00am Staff Mtg.</p> <p>4:30pm Cosmic Baseball Block Party 7:30pm Cosmic Baseball @ Huntington Field 7:30pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>24 8:00pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>25 9:30am AA Mtg</p> <p>8:00pm AA Mtg</p>
<p>26 Ninth Sunday After Pentecost (Pr. David Wendel) 8:15 & 11:00am Worship Services</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 8:00pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>29 10:30 am Women's Bible Study</p> <p>6:15pm Ringers</p>	<p>30 7:30pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>31 8:00pm AA Mtg</p>	

Grace


Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
100 East Schrock Road, Westerville, Ohio 43081
Phone: (614) 882-3026
Pr. David Wendel: (719) 650-8171
E-mail: office@grace43081.org
Website: www.grace43081.org
<http://www.facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville>



Place address label here



We are a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church



★ **GOD BLESS AMERICA** ★

Happy
4TH OF JULY
A Prayer for America
Heavenly Father

We, the people, in the
land of the free and
the home of the brave,
desperately need You.

Oh that we would leave our ways
of seeking to be blessed
and instead seek to bless others.

We beg for Your guidance and wisdom
for our leaders.

We ask You to protect our land
from enemies, both within and without.

And we praise you for the freedom
we have through the blood of Your Son.

May Your plan be the desire of our nation.

Amen